

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated December 15, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, and 13 are independent claims.

In the Final Office Action, the specification and drawings are objected to for not showing certain features of claim 1. In response, two (2) new drawing sheets including new FIGs. 1, 2 and 3 are enclosed. Further, the specification has been amended for conformance with the new FIGs. 1, 2 and 3 which show an exposed electrode 100. Additionally, the claims have been amended to replace "tail end" with "end" in all required claims. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the specification and drawing objections and approval of the enclosed proposed new drawings.

Claims 16 and 17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper independent form for failing to limit the subject matter of the previous claim. The Applicants respectfully disagree. However, to advance prosecution and expedite allowance

of the claims, the claims 16 and 17 have been amended to clarify the claims further limitations. The claims 16 and 17 recite "wherein the end extends in a direction of optically inactivated regions of the further reflector" and "wherein the end extends in a direction of optically inactivated regions of the further reflector", respectively, which further limits claims 10 and 13 from which claims 16 and 17 depend, respectively. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to claims 16 and 17.

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,676,579 to Parham ("Parham"). Claim 6 is rejected as allegedly unpatentable over Parham in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,675,677 to Davenport ("Davenport"). Claims 10-12 and 16 are rejected as allegedly unpatentable over Parham in view of Eggink. Claims 13-15 and 17 are rejected as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,646,473 to Eggink ("Eggink") in view of Parkam.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Parham shows a discharge vessel 292 of a lamp having a bulbous portion 258 and inner end portion 264 with a reflective coating 290

(see, FIG. 15-17). As shown in FIG. 15, the reflective coating 290 mostly covers the inner end portion 264, in that as clearly shown, more of the inner end portion 264 is covered by the reflective coating 290, than is not covered by it.

Eggink shows an electric reflector lamp having a rectangular-shaped discharge vessel 42 positioned within a neck of the lamp (e.g., see, FIG. 1).

There is no showing in Parham or Eggink of a reflector covering a portion of the hollow discharge vessel but does not mostly cover the end, and wherein the end extends in the direction of the optically inactivated regions of the main reflector, as for example required by claim 1.

Without agreeing with the Examiner, and to expedite allowance of the present application, independent claims 1, 10, and 13 have been amended herein to better clarify the Applicants' invention. Claims 1, 10, and 13 have been amended to replace "substantially" with "mostly". Mostly is defined by dictionary.com as, "for the most part; in the main", or "For the greatest part; mainly", (mostly. Dictionary.com. The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004.

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/mostly> (accessed: January 17, 2007)). It is respectfully submitted that each of FIGs. 1-3 clearly show that the reflector 25 covers a portion of the hollow discharge vessel but does not mostly cover the end 23.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments were not made to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Further, Applicants reserve their right to reintroduce the original or previously amended claims, or subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

It is respectfully submitted that the reflector lamp of claim 1, 10 and 13 are not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Parham, Eggink or any combination thereof. For example, Parham and/or Eggink do not disclose or suggest, a reflector lamp that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "wherein the at least one primary reflector covers a portion of the hollow discharge vessel but does not mostly cover the end, and wherein the end extends in the direction of the optically inactivated regions of the main reflector" as required by

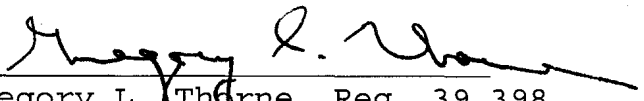
Claim 1 and substantively required by claims 10 and 13. Davenport is cited for other reasons and does not cure the defects in Parham.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 10 and 13 are patentable over Parham and Eggink and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-9, 11-12 and 14-17 depend from claims 1, 10 and 13 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the Claims 2-9, 11-12 and 14-17 is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Two (2) Replacement drawings

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